

The 7th EU Research Framework Programme - Cultural Heritage and International Cooperation

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The 7th Research Framework Programme – An overview

The European Commission launched in 2005 an ambitious proposal for the EU Seventh Research Framework Programme 2007-2013 (FP7) which was adopted by the Council (and by the European Parliament) on December 2006 [1]. Subtitled “Building the European research area of knowledge for growth”, FP7 is designed to respond to the competitiveness and employment needs of the EU.

In a changing world characterised by the accelerating globalisation of research and technology and the emergence of new scientific and technological powers – notably China and India – the European Research Area (ERA) is a core element of Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs for building an European knowledge society. Such a society is one where research, education, training and innovation are fully mobilised to fulfil the economic, social and environmental ambitions of the EU and the expectations of its citizens [2]. The ERA concept combines: a European "internal market" for research, where researchers, technology and knowledge freely circulate; effective European-level coordination of national and regional research activities, programmes and policies; and initiatives implemented and funded at European level. However, there is still much further to go to build ERA, particularly to overcome the fragmentation of research activities, programmes and policies across Europe.

The EU Research Framework Programme is explicitly designed to support the creation of ERA and its funding has been substantially increased. The FP7 will last for seven years from 2007 until 2013 and it has a total budget of over € 50 billion. This represents a substantial increase compared with the previous Framework Programme FP6 (41% at 2004 prices, 63% at current prices).

| <i>Budget of FP7 (2007-13, current prices)</i> | |
|--|-------------------------|
| Cooperation | € 32 413 million |
| Ideas | € 7 510 million |
| People | € 4 750 million |
| Capacities | € 4 097 million |
| JRC EC Programme | € 1 751 million |
| Total FP7 SPs | € 50 521 million |
| <i>Budget Euratom Programme (2007-11)</i> | |
| Fusion Energy Research | € 1 947 million |
| Nuclear Fission and Radiation Protection | € 287 million |
| JRC Nuclear Research | € 517 million |
| Total Euratom | € 2 751 million |

The FP7 places greater emphasis than in the past on the international dimension of research that is strategically relevant to the needs of European industry, to help it compete at global level, and develop its role as a world leader in certain sectors. The programme for the first time provide also support for the best in European investigator-driven research, with the creation of a European Research Council. Focus will be on excellence throughout the programme, a requirement if it is to play its role in developing Europe's global competitiveness. Another priority will be to make participation in the programme simpler and easier, through measures addressing the procedures, plus a rationalisation of instruments participation.

The FP7 is organised in four specific programmes (SPs). Each year will be adopted by the Commission specific work programmes (WPs) for implementing the FP. WPs will be periodically modified in order to give appropriate answers to the global changes and the European needs. WPs are adopted by the Commission for implementing the SPs setting out in details the objectives and the scientific and technological priorities, including the timetable of the call for proposals.

1. Cooperation

The SP Cooperation aims to gain European leadership in key areas through co-operation of industry and research institutions. Support will be given to research activities carried out in trans-national cooperation, from collaborative projects and networks to the coordination of national research programmes.

The Cooperation programme is organised into sub-programmes which will be operationally autonomous and at the same time demonstrate coherence and consistency, and allow for joint, cross-thematic approaches to research subjects of common interest. Ten themes have been identified (budgets for the 7 years program, in million of Euro, are in brackets):

- Health (€ 6 100 million)
- Food, agriculture and biotechnology (1 935)
- Information & communication technology (9 050)
- Nanosciences and nanotechnologies, materials and new production technologies (3 475)
- Energy (2 350)
- Environment (including climate change, 1 890)
- Transport (including aeronautics, 4 160)
- Socio-economic sciences & humanities (623)
- Space (1 430)
- Security (1 400)

In addition, two themes are covered by the Euratom Framework Programme:

- Fusion energy research (1 947)
- Nuclear fission and radiation protection (287).

2. Ideas

The objective of this SP is to strengthen the excellence of our science base by fostering competition at European level. An autonomous European Research Council has been created to support “frontier research” carried out by research teams, either individually or in partnership, competing at European level, in all scientific and technological fields, including engineering, socio-economic sciences and the humanities.

3. People

The SP People aims to reinforce career prospects and mobility for our researchers. Activities supporting individual researchers, referred to as “Marie Curie” actions, are reinforced with the aim of strengthening the human potential of European research through support to training, mobility and the development of European research careers.

4. Capacities

The objective of this SP is to develop research capacities, so that the European science community has the best possible capacities at its service. Activities are supported to enhance research and innovation capacity throughout Europe: research infrastructures; regional research driven clusters; stimulating the research potential in the EU’s “convergence” regions; clustering regional actors in research to develop “regions of knowledge”; research for and by SMEs; “science in society” issues; “horizontal” activities of international co-operation.

Cultural Heritage in FP7

The research activities on Cultural Heritage (CH) will be funded by FP7 within the theme Environment of the SP Cooperation. The main objective of this theme indicated in the specific Work Programme (WP) adopted for the 2007 is “to promote sustainable management of the environment and its resources through advancing our knowledge on the interactions between the climate, biosphere, ecosystems and human activities, and developing new technologies, tools and services, in order to address in an integrated way global environmental issues.” [3] The WP also emphasizes the activities finalized to develop tools and technologies for “monitoring, prevention, mitigation of and adaptation to environmental pressures and risks including on health, as well as for the sustainability of the natural and man-made environment” which includes CH.

The work programme is structured according to the four main activities of the Environment Theme in the Cooperation Specific Programme: i.e. Climate change, pollution and risks; Sustainable management of resources; Environmental technologies; Earth observation and assessment tools. It takes due account of the dynamics of FP6 running activities to address, right from the outset of FP7, those areas which require urgent action.

ENVIRONMENT THEME - ACTIVITIES

6.1. Climate Change, Pollution, and Risks

Main topics: Pressure on environment and climate; environment & health; natural hazards

6.2. Sustainable Management of Resources

Sustainable management of natural (land) and urban environment; management of marine environment

6.3. Environmental Technologies

Related to water, soil, waste, air, sea, and built environment; **cultural heritage** including human habitat; technology assessment

6.4. Earth Observation & Assessment Tools

Earth and ocean observation & monitoring for sustainable development; forecasting and assessment methods for SD (also considering interaction between social, economic and ecological systems)

The strategic importance Environmental Technologies, which include in FP7 the Cultural Heritage, has been highlighted by the Environmental Technology Action Plan launched in 2004 by the Commission as a joint initiative between DG ENV and DG RTD. Priority in research will be given to innovative system solutions, which integrate front-end with in-process and end-of-pipe components within a coherent organisational framework, having the objective to minimising the environmental impacts associated to economic activities and helping to closing the cycle of materials. For this aim, appropriate methodologies for technology sustainability assessment need to accompany all research activities.

Several Strategic Research Agendas of relevant Technology Platforms have contributed to the definition of the programme, and in particular those of the Water Supply and Sanitation, Sustainable Chemistry, Construction (in particular for the focus area Cultural Heritage) and Forestry platforms.

Each activity is structured in sub-activities.

The work programme will be implemented through a range of funding schemes as specified in each topic description. The following funding thresholds will apply to different types of projects:

Collaborative projects in this work programme have been divided into a) small or medium-scale focused research projects, and b) large-scale integrating projects:

- For small or medium-scale focused research projects, the requested Community contribution shall not exceed 3.5 million Euros, unless otherwise indicated in the topic description.

- For large-scale integrating projects the requested Community contribution shall be from 4 up to 7 million Euros, unless otherwise specified in the topic description.

The Networks of Excellence shall be funded by the EC from 4 up to 7 million Euros.

The "coordination and support actions" funding scheme, allows for 2 different types of actions to be financed: a) coordinating type or b) supporting type. The

requested Community contribution for these coordination or support actions is expected to be relatively limited in size and scope, as reflected in the relevant topic descriptions. However, in the specific case of ERA-NET projects, the requested community contribution may go up to 2 million Euros.

Overall in the Theme and in the selection of topics for the work programme 2007 specific emphasis has been given to horizontal issues such as international co-operation, emerging needs and policy relevant research, dissemination actions and SME targeted topics.

The Theme is designed to attract industrial participants, putting specific emphasis on SME relevant research topics namely within the areas of the Environmental Technologies activity. In this activity SME-targeted collaborative research topics have been introduced in areas which are supporting the Strategic Research agendas of the relevant Technology Platforms and which are specifically designed to encourage SME participation in research and innovation. This approach includes the CH topics, as well as the damage assessment, diagnosis and monitoring for the preventive conservation and maintenance of the cultural heritage (ENV.2007.3.2.1.1.). The international cooperation covers all the activities of the Theme Environment through two mechanisms: firstly, opening all the topics of the call for international cooperation and encouraging the ICPC14 participation in various topics across the Theme, second, through Specific International Co-operation Actions (SICA) across all activities of the work programme whose contents were identified in particular through international workshops. The Specific International Co-operation actions will have an overall indicative budget of 24 million Euros.

No Specific International co-operation actions included in the first work programme (2007) have been planned in the sectors of Cultural Heritage.

The first call for FP7 Environment (Theme 6) was launched in December 2006 [4]. As well as in FP6, each call is structured in activities, sub-activities and areas identified with bullet numbers.

A New Approach to International S&T Cooperation in FP7

The 7th EU RTD Framework Programme places new emphasis on international research cooperation which is increasingly seen as being at the centre of Community policies. Increasing global challenges such as intensified economic globalisation, the rise of new global players and the provision of global public goods, reinforce the case for a new approach to international cooperation in science and technology from a European perspective.

The need for critical mass and large-scale infrastructure for advancing research in many areas increasingly call for strong international partnerships. European research institutes seek to learn and benefit from good practice in research and innovation links elsewhere in the world.

European industry is rapidly investing in emerging economies, such as in China and in India, as well as in industrialised economies. Researchers and students, both in Europe and the rest of the World are looking beyond training opportunities in European countries and the USA, seeking world-class centres of learning and research. At the same time there are significant opportunities for the EU to put its scientific and technological expertise to the forefront in meeting its political, social, economic and humanitarian commitments in sustainable development fields ranging from global climate change and biodiversity to fulfilling the Millennium Development Goals.

S&T may also play a role in the implementation of international agreements where the EU is a party, such as on biodiversity and climate change.

The new approach to international cooperation in FP7 aims to rise to these challenges by way of innovative mechanisms for promoting international research collaboration. It aims to address three interdependent objectives:

- (1) supporting European scientific and economic development through strategic partnerships with third countries in selected fields of science and by engaging the best third country scientists to work in and with Europe;
- (2) facilitating contacts with partners in third countries with the aim of providing better access to research carried out elsewhere in the World;
- (3) addressing specific problems that third countries face or that have a global character (e.g. by contributing towards Millennium Development Goals, addressing global climate change, combating biodiversity loss, water and energy scarcity).

The approach on international cooperation under FP7 is significantly different than under FP6. It aims at integrating international research collaboration throughout the Framework Programme and includes both geographical and thematic targeting. Three basic principles have been adopted in order to expand the international collaboration:

Programming: unlike previous RTD framework programmes, FP7 includes both a broad opening ("mainstreaming") of international research collaboration in both programmes and

in research themes across the whole Framework Programme and a programming of specific priorities for third countries and regions in different calls for proposals across the thematic work programmes;

Targeting: by defining specific actions for collaboration with third countries and regions in each of the thematic programmes, FP7 ensures that budgets for international cooperation are built in at the level of each of the relevant calls for proposals;

Partnership and dialogue: the principle of partnership will be a particular focus of the specific international cooperation actions for third countries and regions under FP7. The Specific International Cooperation Actions will aim at a fair level of participation for third countries in the collaboration with their European partners³.

implementation

To maximise impact, the international activities across all programmes will be complementary and synergistic. The Cooperation Programme enables research cooperation to take place between different global research partners in collaboration with European researchers. The Capacities Programme will support a range of activities to strengthen research capacity in the European scientific community and other regions of the world. The People Programme meets the need to foster both incoming and outgoing international mobility of researchers. The Ideas Programme supports excellence in frontier research and enables individual top international researchers to participate in Europe-led teams.

Actions taken to simplify procedures (unique registration facility, reduced evaluation criteria, simplified forms, etc.) for FP7 will be particularly important to potential participants from third countries that are likely to be less familiar with the Framework Programme.

Implementation in the Co-operation Programme

The Cooperation Programme covers ten themes corresponding to major fields in the progress of knowledge and technology ranging from health to security⁴. All ten themes have an important international dimension (with particular considerations in the security theme owing to confidentiality requirements), and most of the FP7 funding for international cooperation will be available under this Programme. International collaborative research in the Cooperation Programme is supported in two ways to ensure a balanced thematic and geographic participation by third countries and regions:

(i) The opening of the thematic areas to all third countries. This includes, in addition, new dedicated actions and calls for third countries (mainly industrialised and emerging economies).

The general opening of FP7 to international partners will enable participation in the programme

by the global scientific community alongside European partners. This opening differs from previous Framework Programmes by placing more emphasis on attracting collaboration with third country partners. The calls for proposals to be published in 2007-08, include some regional targeting of the industrialised countries and emerging economies by including specific priorities where their participation is particularly encouraged. Where appropriate the use of coordinated calls with third countries will also be encouraged.

The expectation is that international expertise can be attracted to Europe which can contribute to projects in the interest of European and global research advancement.

(ii) Specific International Cooperation Actions in each thematic area dedicated to third countries where there is mutual interest on the basis of both the S&T level and the needs of the countries concerned.

These actions are a novelty in FP7 and are geared towards the research and development needs of third countries. They are aimed at reinforcing research capacity in non-associated candidate and neighbourhood countries and at addressing the particular needs of developing and emerging economies by means of dedicated cooperative activities.

The actions apply to the International Cooperation Partner Countries (ICPC, see Annex II). Amongst other aims they should also ensure participation by countries or regions that might otherwise have difficulty in participating in the general opening of FP7 for reasons of capacity.

A range of specific actions are built into the majority of the thematic programmes (e.g. in the Environment theme: health impacts of drought and desertification in the Mediterranean partner countries; in the Food, Agriculture and Fisheries, and Biotechnologies theme:

conservation, management and exploitation of living aquatic resources outside EU waters;

in the Health theme: HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis research with India; in the Socio-

Economic theme: Europe's role in global economic governance).⁵ These specific actions

will be dedicated regionally and thematically in the different specific programmes of the Cooperation Programme.

More detailed examples of specific actions are given in Annex 1.

Implementation in the Capacities Programme

The Capacities programme includes seven activities⁶, one of which is fully dedicated to international cooperation.

International cooperation activity of the Capacities Programme:

This activity will foster international cooperation through support measures for third countries

and regions on the ICPC list. It will support dialogues (an example of an existing dialogue is the West Balkans Countries Platform, which brings together different stakeholders such as universities, industry, government, civil society and donors) and information exchange activities with third countries and regions on the ICPC list. The objective of these activities is to enable the EU, third countries and regions to discuss current and future research priorities, to facilitate debate between the different stakeholders. The outcomes of these dialogues will provide intelligence for developing research policy, provide input to the respective FP7 specific programmes and inspire research topics for international cooperation, in particular in the Cooperation programme.

The activity also supports actions to increase coherence in international research activities with and amongst the Member States that contribute to a better Europe-level coordination on aspects of international S&T cooperation.

The activities supported will have three major objectives:

- i) To strengthen bi-regional and bilateral dialogues in scientific cooperation and assist in joint identification of topics for collaboration under FP7 thematic programmes. Activities will be established by means of INCO-NETs - platforms bringing together policy makers and stakeholders of an individual target region/country. They will support dialogues to identify S&T priorities and include workshops and development of FP7 "Information Points" in third countries. Six pre-identified regions: West Balkan Countries, Mediterranean partner countries, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Asia, ACP and Latin America are targeted. S&T priorities agreed through the dialogues will provide an input to the relevant FP7 specific programmes in view of defining calls for proposals.
- ii) To network different stakeholders (such as universities, industry, government, civil society and donors) in order to strengthen research capacity. This activity will target countries which have an S&T cooperation agreement with the European Community or are in the process of negotiating one. Examples include the development of information facilities in third countries to assist in identifying and building research partnerships between different types of research actors.

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- iii) To facilitate the development and implementation of a coherent European-level approach towards international S&T cooperation. The use of ERA-NETs⁷ will be particularly useful in reinforcing coordination between EU Member States, and Associated States targeting their S&T cooperation with third countries.

Other activities of the Capacities Programme also address international cooperation as outlined below. The examples selected cover the work programmes only for the period 2007-2008:

Research infrastructures

By attracting users from various countries and through networking, Research Infrastructures contribute to integrating and structuring the scientific community. In many circumstances Europe's interests will be well served by participating in a facility overseas and vice-versa for third countries. The cost and complexity of large installations require international collaborations in order to share the financial burden and technological risks.

As well as encouraging new international collaboration in infrastructures, FP7 will continue its important support to the existing Research Infrastructures in all fields of science and technology, with the objective of maximising their use, access and development, and with a clear opening to international cooperation. For example, the GEANT2 and Grid infrastructures with a consolidated European footprint, also support global collaboration between similar infrastructures around the world, namely in Asia, Latin America and the Mediterranean. Other examples of infrastructures where third country participation is welcome include the Global Ocean Observing (EURO ARGO); the Integrated Carbon Observation System (ICOS); and the LIFE WATCH initiative on Biodiversity.

Research potential

Under this activity, support can be provided to promote closer S&T cooperation between Europe and other regions in the world by improving research capacity in those other regions. One example is the cooperation between Europe and the Western Balkan countries which includes, amongst others, actions to support trans-national two-way exchanges of research staff in order to progressively include the West Balkan countries in the European Research Area

Science in Society

International dialogue will be supported on issues which relate to topics in the Science in Society programme with a strong international remit. One example is the global dialogue on ethics involving Africa, Latin America, Asia and Central Asia, aimed at helping developing countries to build up their own best practices in the field of ethics and science and also to ensure that European research conducted in developing countries will comply with fundamental ethical principles.

Implementation in the People Programme

The international dimension of the People Programme reinforces international cooperation in

FP7 by supporting researcher mobility and their career development. It is directed at increasing the quality of European research, both by supporting European researchers to undertake research abroad and by attracting research talent from outside Europe and fostering research collaborations. It includes two main action lines:

i) Career development/ life-long training for EU researchers
International outgoing fellowships at postdoctoral level and beyond (with an in-built mandatory return phase): enable European researchers to be trained and acquire new knowledge within high level third country research organisations. Promising European researchers will gain research training experience outside Europe and add different or complementary research competences at an advanced level to their experiences.

International re-integration grants: encourage European researchers, who have carried out research outside Europe for at least years, to return to a Member State or Associated country in order to contribute to European research and to transfer the knowledge they have acquired in a third country.

ii) International cooperation for and with researchers from third countries
International incoming fellowships for experienced researchers: for knowledge transfer with Europe, and enrichment of research collaboration. Researchers from third countries will be offered support to undertake research projects in Europe with a view to enhancing the possibility of future collaborative research links with Europe.
Marie Curie host driven actions: as a general rule (e.g. the Research Training Networks targeting doctoral candidates) all are open to third country nationals.

A partnership scheme: these grants focus on staff exchanges between several European research organisations and organisations from countries covered by the European Neighbourhood Policy, and countries with which the Community has S&T Agreements with the EU.

Support to scientific diasporas: a new action to support the expansion of the successful pilot exercise to network European researchers abroad by means of European Researchers Abroad networks - the ERA-Link initiative.⁸ These activities will establish links between Europe and expatriate European researchers, promote collaborations with the European research community, as well as support networking activities of third country researchers in Europe.

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Implementation in the Ideas Programme

The Ideas Programme aims to reinforce European activities in leading edge or 'frontier' research, providing support for individual teams rather than for multinational consortia.

Individual international researchers will be encouraged to join with Europe-led teams, where they will bring specific expertise from outside Europe to enrich the research being undertaken.

Full recognition is given to the need to associate top scientists from elsewhere in the world in reinforcing excellence, dynamism and creativity in European research.

Implementation in Euratom (2007-2011)

International cooperation in the area of research in fission and radiation protection is an important element of the Euratom Programme. High-level agreements between Euratom and certain third countries facilitate the cooperation, moreover participation of third countries in projects is possible on an ad hoc basis. Dedicated research topics, (e.g. nuclear plant lifetime management with Russia) should ensure greater international cooperation. The growing importance of global initiatives, such as the Generation-IV International Forum that coordinates research on the next generation nuclear reactors, enhances the potential for future international cooperation under Euratom. In fusion research, international collaboration is supported by bilateral or multilateral fusion agreements⁹. An important example is the ITER Project which provides a major step towards the creation of prototype reactors for fusion power stations. This project is implemented by an international organisation established by Euratom, China, India, Japan, Korea, the Russian Federation and the United States of America. The ITER Project is a potential model for future international large-scale research projects.

4. implementation of direct Actions through the Joint research centre

The Joint Research Centre (JRC)¹⁰ provides scientific and technical support for EU policies.

International cooperation is essential to carry out its mission. Under FP7, the JRC aims to develop international collaborations in areas of strategic importance, e.g. global warming; sustainable development; external security; metrology; nuclear safety and safeguards (in the context of the Euratom Programmes); food security and global resources. It will also promote research cooperation with third country partners to ensure harmonized approaches to reference measurements, safety testing (e.g. for hydrogen storage), and detection (e.g. for GMOs in food and feed, in support of EU legislation and international agreements).

An example of international collaboration is a dedicated activity with EU Candidate and potential Candidate Countries and the European Neighbourhood Policy Partner Countries (Southern Mediterranean and Eastern Europe), which will include specific instruments directed at promoting networking, knowledge transfer and training on complex EU policies.

5. coordinAtion

Coordination is essential and will take place at different levels.

Coordination within FP7: Coordination of international cooperation in FP7 will be essential to ensure coherence of approach and to enable the cross-fertilization of outputs from the Capacities Programme to the other FP7 specific programmes and vice-versa. Full interaction and exchanges of information between the Capacities, Cooperation, People and Ideas Programmes will therefore be ensured internally and via the appropriate Programme Committees. Coordination with other Community policies: In addition to intra-FP7 coordination, coordination will also be ensured with Community external policies, such as the European Neighbourhood Policy, development cooperation or trade, as well as policies with an external dimension such as environment (including climate change), energy (where, in particular, the European Strategic Energy Technology Plan will facilitate concrete research and development initiatives with international partners), fisheries or transport. A further example is the current co-ordination between research and co-operation programmes leading to the successful extension of GEANT2 to Latin America (@LIS), the Mediterranean (EUMEDIS) and Asia (TEIN). Co-ordination actions will include liaison and consultation with the European Commission's Delegations in third countries.

Coordination of international cooperation with Member States and Associated Countries:

The Capacities Programme will support activities to develop a European-level approach to international cooperation. Coordination will ensure that the different FP7 specific programmes receive information from Member States' activities in international research cooperation, including outputs from the open method of coordination process where some Member States have indicated their readiness to consider co-ordinating some of their international activities.

Moreover, the use of ERA-NET activities (e.g. in the Energy theme), will contribute to a better coherence between the international cooperation initiatives of the EU and its Member States.

Implementation of international cooperation will be monitored by the Commission services and regular feedback on progress will be provided to Member States, third countries, and stakeholders.

A4. 2 THE ERA-NET SCHEME

The objective of the ERA-NET scheme is to develop and strengthen the coordination of national and regional research programmes through two specific actions:

- 'ERA-NET' actions' - which provide a framework for actors implementing public research programmes to coordinate their activities. This will include support for new ERA-NETs as well as for the broadening and deepening of the scope of existing ERA-NETs, e.g. by extending their partnership, as well as opening mutually their programmes;
- 'ERA-NET Plus actions'- *In a limited number of cases*, additional EU financial support can be provided to facilitate joint calls for proposals between national and/or regional programmes. Under the ERA-NET scheme, national and regional authorities identify research programmes they wish to coordinate or open up mutually. The participants in these actions are therefore programme 'owners' (typically ministries or regional authorities defining research programmes) or programme 'managers' (such as research councils or other research funding agencies managing research programmes). The networking and mutual opening of research programmes require a progressive approach. The ERA-NET scheme therefore has a long-term perspective and it is flexible in order to allow for the different ways in which public research funding is organised in different Member or

Environment (including Climate Change)

Call FP7-ENV-2007-1

Identifier: FP7-ENV-2007-1

Publication date: 22 December 2006

Budget: € 200 000 000

Deadline: 02 May 2007 at 17:00:00 (Brussels local time)

OJ Reference: OJ C316 of 22 December 2006

Specific Programme: [Cooperation]

Theme: [Environment (including Climate Change)]

[1] Decision of the Council and the European Parliament n. 1982/2006/CE, 18 December 2006, OJ L 412 of 30 December 2006, pp. 0001 – 0043

[2] GREEN PAPER - The European Research Area: New Perspectives (Text with EEA relevance) {SEC(2007) 412}, COM(2007) 161 final, 4 April 2007. *The public consultation on this document has been closed on 31 August 2007.* <http://ec.europa.eu/research/era>.

[3] Work Programme 2007, Cooperation, Theme 6, Environment (including climate change) - Decision of the European Commission C(2007)560 of 26.02.07

[4] Call for proposals FP7-ENV-2007-1, OJ C316 of 22 December 2006